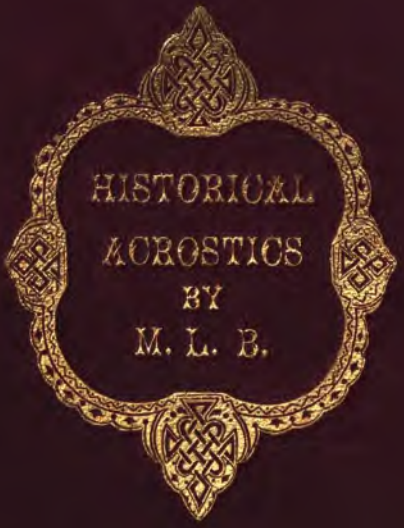

HISTORICAL ACROSTICS.

LONDON
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NEW-STREET SQUARE

HISTORICAL ACROSTICS

FROM THE NORMAN CONQUEST TO

THE PRESENT REIGN.

BY

M. L. B.

LONDON:
THOMAS BOSWORTH, 215 REGENT STREET.
1866.

Dedicated

TO

1. Italian beasts, or island,—all the same;
2. Rich hangings, or the city whence they came.
3. { A poet's resting-place in southern land,
   Or a late novel by a master hand.
4. As Zeba and Salmana so I fared.
5. A town, or majesty—the words are paired.
6. To drink, or bathe, here travellers abound;
7. { A neighbouring cape to one that's more renowned;
   Though far away, it has a *home-like* sound.
8. { A woman's name; if the Greek root we trace,
   It means a lady of a noble race.

BY THEIR GODMOTHER.

1. I don't wear a cap, and I hate a dense crowd,
2. Of worry and bother ne'er dream;
3. A war against satire and chaff I have vowed,
4. And if I am vexed, I shall scream!
5. { So accept the small volume, dear ladies, I pray,
   With my very best *last*, on the next New Year's Day!

MENTONE: CHRISTMAS, 1865.

PREFACE.

I AM very fond of guessing Acrostics in company, but, in so doing, on several occasions I have discovered that amongst all the ingenious little volumes that have been published there is yet room, and even a demand, for another. Subjects are frequently introduced in the lights with which girls are not conversant, although quite as quick to guess, and in many respects quite as well informed, as their elders; for instance—many Mythological fables, many works of fiction, both English and foreign (more especially German and French): and a gap in the lights of a half-guessed Acrostic is most tantalising. This little book is not intended for young children, or merely for very young people; it

does not profess to be always easy, as far as solution goes; but it does profess to allude only to subjects with which all my girlish friends (including those whose names adorn the first page) are well acquainted: and so a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all my readers.

M. L. B.

*** The letters I and J are used indifferently throughout the volume. An asterisk implies that there are two different words, initial and final letters the same; in contradistinction to some where one word has two meanings.

HISTORICAL ACROSTICS.

William I.

A prudent institution.—A seditious relation.

1. My first is a word not to throw at a dog.
2. A false stitch oft my second entails.
3. Beware of your purse in the streets in a fog.
4. Before me no Englishman quails.
5. And my fifth is a part both of you and of me,
6. And the crown of my sixth, as you probably see.

William II.

Where it was done.—Who did it.

1. Fair maiden, beware of becoming my first;
2. And subdue the first germs of my second!
3. My third, if he's sporting, enjoys a sharp burst.

4. My next, soft and downy is reckoned.
5. Alas, for my fifth, oft ill-treated and bound,
6. Though condemned to my last, on his task-master's ground.

Henry I.

A terrible misfortune.—A surname, or nickname.

1. A luscious mixture for a summer fête.
2. A house whose inmates still, are up and doing.
3. Search, and you'll find in the Greek alphabet.
4. Alas! thy riches wrought thy children's ruin.
5. The Chanc'llor's seat, curtail it by a letter.
6. Seditious subject, for the want of better.
7. Along my boundless seventh, Tartarian plain,
9, 8. My ninth, is urging on his eighth amain.

Stephen.

The enemy's name.—The title of the same.

1. Aromatic.
2. Very small.
3. So erratic.
4. *Sham in all.*

5. On me hang your next (6) to dry.
7. Sober dame with downcast eye,
   Though her hopes are fixed on high.

Henry II.

Two murdered people.
Surname.—Christian name.

1. How stout and bright and glittering is my first.
2. So meek, she can't utter my next to a bird!
3. Don't drain the bowl, enough to quench your thirst.
4. A Galilean city gives the word.
5. Spain, England, Portugal, and many more.
6. The black-eyed donna muses on thy shore.
7. A sacred amulet—a magic charm.
8. A bloated creature, but it does no harm.

Richard I.

An enterprise.—A deliverer.

1. The offspring of a savage sire.
2. What we should to, not at, our friends.
3. A word implying nearer, nigher.

4. The power that with all good contends.
5. We call for, when with fear we quake.
6. We'd better never throw, or shake.
7. When offered less, what some folks take.

JOHN.

A famous council.—England's glory.

1. An eastern mode of salutation.
2. Allays all wounds, and irritation.
3. My occupation at the present time.
4. I hope you've formed some, through my doggrel rhyme.
5. A great French actor, and a loose warm coat.
6. How many islands on thy bosom float!
7. Hark! o'er the styles the merry children bound,
8. While fold and field with plaintive tones resound.
9. Come, let us seek repose beneath the shade,
10. Where its small house the tiny wren has made;
    There, while we sit and chat amid the trees,
11. Straight from my last, is borne the healthful breeze.

Henry III.

Two turbulent nobles.

1. Where many in this stormy reign deserved to be, and were,
2. And how each felt himself, I ween, when fast located there.
3. Although from France, one lord, methinks, this word but seldom said.
4. His style was very much my fourth—hot temper, and hot head.
5. Both would fall out, and then sometimes would *make it up* as friends;
6. And now my sixth upon the one, and then the other tends.
7. Brave knights in battle or in lists, we must confess them both,
8. Though to improve my eighth, (their own) no doubt were nothing loth;
9. And if they each were called my last, the king was much to blame,

A tyrant, and a weak one too, without a sense of shame.

EDWARD I.

A troublesome rival.—A conquered country.

1. A thing I'm very loth to do.
2. A Jewish mother most unfair.
3. What some folks are to me and you,
4. When we to fourth, acrostics dare.
5. The last they seem, I must confess,
   To those who can, or will not guess.

EDWARD II.

A pitched battle.—A noted favourite.

1. How many to my first, were borne,
   From that disastrous field!
2. England for many a next must mourn,
3. When *such like* warriors yield.
   Let Fame within her Temple keep
4. A place for those who fall.
5. Pay funeral rites to those who sleep
   The last deep sleep of all.
6. But though to cavil no way prone,
7. This man a seventh we call.
8. *Titles* indeed could Edward give,
9. What *good* to him who ceased to live?
10. His tenth was run, the die was cast;
11. *Such knaves,* we trust, are few in last.

EDWARD III.

An invention.—A victory.

1. What mystic emblems do I here behold?
*2. Dickens or Fechter, dare I make so bold,
3. Just here, you will begin to feel the swell;
4. But strong and hot, perhaps, will keep you well.
5. How cool and green amidst the burning waste!
6. I hope won't find the acrostic to their taste.

RICHARD II.

A rebel.—A religious sect.

1. An ancient beverage, found sometimes e'en now, at Christmas time.
2. A modern conqueror's natal town, a man of blood and crime,
3. But very great in many ways, though far from being third.
4. By lazy folks, sheer idleness would be to this preferred.
5. A pleasant word in answer given, though in *old-fas*hioned guise.

6. What all good housewives strive to fill, and keep quite clear from flies.
7. A precious stone, which, in some eyes, all other gems exceeds.
8. What my initials proved himself, by his seditious deeds.

Henry IV.

A poet's surname.—A hero's nickname.

1. Very disagreeable both to self, and friends.
2. When you see it round the moon, pleasant weather ends.
3. Life is short, but this is long, a poet once let fall.
4. What some snarling critics our poor acrostics call.
5. Very good, but best, I'm told, when smoking in the pan.
6. Did you see that giant bird, and what a pace he ran?
7. Yield glad obedience to my last, as far as each *one can.*

Henry V.

Two of his conquests.

1. Fair princess, though rough, I am none of my first,
2. And on *such an occasion* my manners I'll mend,
3. Lest you stamp me my third, if worst come to the worst,
4. Oh say, will you bid me, fourth hope to the end?
5. For you are my love, and my joy, and my next,
6. Though I'm none of my sixth, and am therefore perplext;
7. But let these two letters for both of us, stand,
8. And together we'll eighth o'er my own native land.
9. So a ninth to all parley, here's crown, heart, and hand!

Henry VI.

Titles of two king-makers.

1. Oh, stop that restive horse, I pray!
2. Lady, a suitor rides this way;
3. A knight whose *spurs* are won I see.

4. Fill high the cup! the toast shall be
5. The namesake of a Spanish queen;
6. And oh, let *none* be ever seen
   Beneath your roof, all strife shall cease.
7. So seal the bond of love and peace.

EDWARD IV.

An ambitious family.—A royal badge.

. When first King Edward saw the Queen sh
   doubtless was my first.
2. You cannot well pronounce my next, unless th
   lips be pursed.
3 Greek plural article will do, nom., masc., g
   ask your brother:
4 Perhaps he'll fourth you where to look, to sav
   himself the bother.
5. Or I would speak, but if he heard my fifth, h
   might accuse me
6. Of being but my sixth at best; and that woul
   quite confuse me.
7, 8. Now take a fine Italian lake, but eighth tha
   some around it.
   And last a noble German stream, and now I'
   sure you've found it.

EDWARD V.

An outcast. Surname.—The scene of a tragedy.

1. What stories to be, is preferred.
2. A sad ejaculation,
3. With two-thirds of a moping bird.
4. Badge of the English nation.
5. Nor publisher nor author, I,
   Although a near relation.

RICHARD III.

A victor.—A battle.

1, 2. With those wheedling Italians beware of your heart;
   For they—it too often, then swear you're my second,
3. And with many a third their professions impart;
4. By me all such compliments, fourth like, are reckoned.
5. Least said, soonest mended, is one that I prize.
6. Demosthenes scarce could have hit one, more wise.
7. But while I am talking there's one, on the bough.
8. Pull it down, but don't fall in the deep last, below.

Henry VII.

An impostor.—A discoverer.

1. A pious king across the water.
2. A prosperous queen, unfilial daughter.
3. Another queen, fair laughing sprite.
4. A third, as brave as any knight.
5. A poet to Greek scholars dear.
6. A prince, a gallant cavalier.
7. The Roman three who reigned of yore.
8. A desert tract on Afric's shore.
9. Fair name a vile apostate bore.
10. Welsh emigrant due westward bound.
11. A Cæsar for some good renowned.
12. One of the Shepherd Monarch's line.
13. A Pontiff and a Zodiac Sign.
14. At the next sale, the *best* be mine.

Henry VIII.

A great man—A little woman.
Surnames.

1. A very cruel trap.
2. A very famous river.
3. A help towards a nap.

4. A sight to make you shiver.
5. Better than never, or than late.
6. Spinning and carding's out of date.

EDWARD VI.

Both doomed.
A gentle-woman.—An ambitious man.

1. Part of a falcon's cap and bells;
2. And do not make my second.
3. Next word a Jewish prophet tells.
4. A meek, mild mother reckoned.
5. Don't put too much, your tongue 't will bite.
6. I get no sleep in bed.
7. Of Christmas Day the vigil night.
8. How bitter is the bread!

MARY.

A lost possession.—A sainted martyr.

1. Antique, no doubt, triumphal, yes, and Roman I opine.
2. M. le Comte declares that he the second is of mine.

3. But when on British ground we meet, I thus the Gaul address.
4. The lightning does the next to me, I candidly confess.
5. A simple one of many, not far from land they lie,
6. The name they bear, to tell the truth, I'd rather they, than I.

ELIZABETH.

An importation.—The importer.

1. A useful but unpleasant mixture.
2. Melodious sounds and joyous dance.
3. In churches, houses, I'm a fixture.
4. A plant, sharp-pointed like a lance.
5. Italian island, small indeed.
6. Your steps I guide, but yet impede.
7. Expressing wonder, joy, or need.

JAMES I.

Petted (Surname).—Persecuted (Christian name).

*1. What acclamations—can it be the queen?
2. Do ask the *landlord*: nowhere to be seen!

3. To hear that lovely opera I have vowed,
4. Though I risk leg or arm, in such a crowd.
5. I'll *find out* at the office, take a stall,
6. Or *turn* some fellow *out* if worst befal.
7. Last evening's prova was superb, I know,
8. I'll ask my cousin Sally if she'll go.

CHARLES I.

Two heads of separate factions.

1. Too much in conversation used.
2. The maiden wondered at the sight.
3. I'm neither long nor square nor round.
4. In town 'sky-blue,' in country white.
5. You'd better leave my fifth alone.
6. Saves trouble when you read or write.
7. My next looks best when newly mown.
8. The poor have none to call their own.

COMMONWEALTH.

A Roundhead English.—A Cavalier Scotch.
Surnames.

1. An author, almost countryman we claim, he wrote of England, had a Scottish name.

2. An old cathedral town (to make so free), it ha
   a bishop and is near the sea.
3. Name of a Saxon king, or if you will, a moder
   lady's, many bear it still.
4. Some say it lives in wells, and some declare th
   moon contains it, and it lives up there.
5. Another name in Shakspeare's pages see.
6. These in the prayer-book, 'as the case may be

CHARLES II.

A Poet.—A Visitation.

*1. Useful in schoolroom, housemaid's store, eac
   word will do as well.
2. What thousands were in this sad time, as Hum
   and Smollet tell.
3. A man, a creature, in which case the wool ou
   does the cry.
4. A strong pull, or a useful boat, if either yc
   will try
5. These letters sound like words indeed, an
   mean some one's a debtor.
6. A scripture name, two ways to spell, I like tl
   other better.

JAMES II.

Two Lights of Science: Christian name, Surname.

1. The finals mild and patient as my first.
2. Noble and pure (not warlike) as my second.
3. A student in my next, with all mankind,
4. To glory in such honours ne'er inclined.
5. There's scarce a last between each master mind.

WILLIAM III.

Institution.—Coalition.

1. Where the King once stuck fast at the battle of Boyne.
2. What he did in a great many ways.
3. Where 'bonny King Jamie' did Baronets coin.
4. Less than kind, so the dramatist says.
5. A very lax poet they study at school.
6. A goddess, fair, bounteous, and free.
7. A measure that varies, on foreigner's rule.
8. A void or a nothing you see.
9. If you seek, you will find in the Zodiac, sure—
10. While sonnets are read thy fair fame shall *endure*.

11. Here first he beheld thee, and here thou art laid.
12. (Not lulled, like poor Juliet, of whom it is said
13. That a few powerful drops, made her seem as one dead).

But the last sleep of all, when thy spirit had fled.

Anne.

Two of the Great Captain's battles.

1. Cunning and kind, to Israelites a friend.
2. I hope, dear captain, you will get promotion.
3. With cloves and nutmeg, this will sweetly blend.
4. No flattery, so flatt'ring I've a notion.
5. This is the palace where a great man dwells.
6. A woman's name; in Greek, it peace implies.
7. Of walks in Norman cornfields, this word tells.
8. How landsmen dread (afloat) to hear it rise!

George I.

An Insurgent.—A scheme.

1. A goddess or a stream, which e'er you please.
2. Italian lake, or painter p'rhaps is better.

3. An island floating on the summer seas.
4. Italian wine—curtail it by a letter.
5. An English city famous for its springs.
6. A town in Scotland, neither more nor less.
7. 'Twas here they wrought the garments meet for kings.
8. A Russian province—now you surely guess.

George II.

Two opponents: Christian names.

1. What a strange bird!
2. What a fair isle!
3. It won't be heard.
4. Flows many a mile.
5. A priest of fame.
6. A prophet's name.
7. The total—frame.

George III.

Victories by sea and land.

1. A noble stream, whose mouth is filled with ships from every strand.

2. A monster empire, late in arms, on isthmus, se
   and land.
3. One of its ports, which bears, indeed, a rigl
   celestial name.
4. Sebastian Cabot found my next, and made
   known to fame.
5. Mark Antony the battle lost, o'erpowered l
   Cæsar's host.
6. A province of my second this, far spreading (
   the coast.
7. A college where the students still degrees
   frolic take!
8. A region bitter cold, in which the sailors free
   and shake.
9. Italian town, whose name is dear, for noble poe
   sake.

George IV.

A sea-fight (Anglicised orthography).
A statesman.

1. This acid's used in medicine, far and near.
2. This the first peopled quarter of the earth.
3. When deftly handled, with delight I hear.
4. Thy dusk complexion speaks a southern birt
5. The sunrise oft in disappointment ends.

6. The meaning of the sixth and fourth line blends.
7. With what the author spares to please her friends.

William IV.

Abolished.—Carried.

1. A travelling artist, no R.A. indeed,
   And yet he often paints in time of need.
2. A word that stands for subject, or for king.
3. Of this fair spot did glorious Schiller sing.
4. North-west of Rome, a city bears my name.
5. The fire is nearly out, blow up the flame.
6. Pray close the piano, for I hate that noise,
7. I'd rather listen to the drummer boys.
8. Town in the Bible, for its forum famed.
9. A brave young prophet, who wild creatures tamed.
10. From these two last, are books in Scripture named.

Victoria.

Theatres of War.

1. A good stout pony, purchased at the fair.
2. Of world-famed Twins the mother, she who bore.

3. Those lately published all the old excel.
4. Boil red or grey, I either like as well.
5. The frivolous alone confess its sway.
6. Have done with all those monkey tricks, I pray.

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